

pleasure of explaining to some rich merchant that the latter was quite mistaken in supposing that he was suffering from a fatal disease.

There are several bastard diseases, comparatively harmless, which closely imitate the peculiarities of very serious ailments.

The limits of our subject might be indefinitely enlarged if we entered on the personal history of physicians, and discussed the incidents, often romantic enough, of their careers.

Sometimes men look with admiration and envy on the career of the great physician. His name is high on the roll of fame.

They hear that he has just been made a baronet. They see his carriage flashing through the street. They see the portals of the greatest houses thrown open to him.

As with the familiarity of intimacy he penetrates to its most sacred asylum. For our own part we lean to the belief that the profession of medicine is not sufficiently rewarded.

Why should the peerage, so often conceded to law, and not denied to literature, be never conferred upon a medical man? There is no other profession so occupied with incessant benevolence.

and with active scientific advance. As Carlyle says, in his "Peverell," "The profession of the human healer being naturally a sacred one, and connected with the highest priesthood, or rather being in itself the outcome and acme of all priesthods and divinity concepts here below."

For the few who really succeed, there are many who make either a comparative or a superlative failure. How many there are who are conscious of high training and great abilities, who wait on year after year for the chances which never come, or which come so late.

How often has the young man left the obscure country town, where he might have achieved a prosperous mediocrity, to try for greatness in London, and has been worsted in the trial? Even the great physician is not always to be envied.

Every guinea has been hardly earned by expenditure of brain and nerve; and we must think of the guinea which he constantly retires as well as the guinea which he takes. No rich man should grudge paying his doctor with most liberal mind, for in the medical profession is a very large amount of unremunerated work, and only most rarely is any tax on benevolence declined.

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